

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
February 9, 2015

MINUTES

St. John's Properties
1800 N. Prospect Ave
1:00 PM

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

Chair Falk-Palec called the February meeting of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities to order at 1:07pm.

Mr. Ochnikowski is unavailable to attend but was 'Skyped' into the meeting

ITEM II ROLL CALL

Chair Falk-Palec led the self-introductions of those present. Commissioners present for the meeting of the Milwaukee County Commission for Persons with Disabilities were:

Deb Falk-Palec
John Haupt
Denise Koss
Barbara Leigh
Cheri Mc Grath
Meg Steimle
Andrzej Walz-Chojnacki

Absent or Excused:

Luis Arroyo
Tom Jacobs
Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr.
Susan Pickering
Kathryn Zalewski

Staff:

Mike Bonk
Tim Ochnikowski (via Skype)

Guests:

Tracy Harrington, MTS

ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (January)

Commissioner Walz-Chojnacki moved approval of the minutes. Chair Falk-Palec accepted the minutes as approved.

ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORT

ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Ms. Harrington indicated that the taxi contract intent to award was sent to American United Taxi. The rate of reimbursement for the contract is lower than the current contract. The van RFP will be out soon. Over 32,000 New Freedom rides were provided in January. A new analyst will be starting soon. Snow removal has been a tough issue this year with bus stops. Travel training continues to be successful. Discussion took place regarding snow removal, the Interfaith snow removal program for seniors, and the hashtag #ShoveItForward created by the Greenfield Fire Department.

ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

Commissioner Steimle indicated that there was a Wil-O-Way Committee meeting at WOW Underwood on February 11 to discuss and review the RFP for recreation programming for 2016-2018., the renovations planned at Underwood and the projects planned in 2015.

ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT (January)

Nothing new from the report that was in the packet.



ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

Commissioner Leigh indicated that she'll need to get more money in order to do all the Tap the Potential activities as in the past. The theater has acquired some puppets for use within its programs.

Mr. Bonk thanked Commissioner Walz-Chojnacki for making the connection with the McTab group. This group and their most recent meeting was reviewed. Many great contact were made there. Snowmobile fest was well attended. There were 230 people registered for the event. CBS 58 appeared at snowmobile fest. Summer Camp is starting to fill up. Working with the Brewers on setting the July 22 game as an ADA Anniversary Celebration event. Working on the 2nd Annual Adaptive Sports Expo. Discussion took place regarding snowmobile fest, wheelchair basketball in March needing volunteers to help.

Chair Falk-Palec shared a letter received from former commissioner Don Richards, complementing the commission on its work. The commission is now down one commissioner so if there are interested people, feel free to invite them to a meeting. An attempt will be made to seek a representative from the City of Milwaukee Common Council.

ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

Ms. Harrington asked some questions about the commissions, its functions and services. It was mentioned that it might be good for a staff member come to TPAC and give an overview.

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Commissioner Steimle gave a brief review of the Governor's budget proposal and how it could impact persons with disabilities. A Facebook page is being developed that will highlight some of the proposals and information. Discussion took place regarding the IRIS program, Family Care vs IRIS, family support and personal care services, and a Survival Coalition report.

Commissioner Koss asked if the lift at the sailing center was working and if it will be in use. Staff will look into this with the sailing center.

ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chair Falk-Palec adjourned the meeting at 2:03pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, March 9, 2015 at 1:00pm at St. John's Properties (1800 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee).

Submitted by: Mike Bonk & Tim Ochnikowski, Staff to the Commission